

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019
Town of Hounsfield
Water District #1/Water District #5 (Rt. 12F - Foster Park Rd.)
(Public Water Supply ID NY2219363)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Town of Hounsfield WD1, will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Mark Warneck, Town of Hounsfield Water Operator at (315) 778-6926. We want you to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town board meetings.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves approximately 135 people through 54 service connections in Water District #1 and Approximately 150 people and 75 service connections in portions of Water District #5. Our water source is The Village of Brownville. In WD #5, The town Discontinued using the wells on Rt. 180 in April 2018. Attached is a copy of the Village's annual water quality report. In addition, the Town checks Chlorine residuals on a daily basis at different points in WD1 and WD5.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, the Village of Brownville routinely tests your drinking water for numerous contaminants which are summarized in their attached report. In addition, the Town tests for disinfection by-products (every 3-years) and total coliform (monthly) in WD1. A summary of these results are presented below.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Watertown District Office of the New York State Department of Health at (315) 785-2277.**

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, or AL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfection By-Products (WD 1)							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	2019	0.02	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	2019	0.04	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Total Coliform	No	monthly	ND	N/A	N/A		Naturally present in the environment

Disinfection By-Products (WD 5)							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	2019	Range 22.2 – 45.6 4th Qtr. LRAA 37.7	ug/l	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination needed to kill harmful organisms. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	2019	Range 17.8 – 58.9 4th Qtr. LRAA 33.4	ug/l	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Total Coliform	No	monthly	ND	N/A	N/A		Naturally present in the environment

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present..

Milligrams per liter (mg/l): One part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

Micrograms per liter (ug/l): One part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of the radioactivity in water.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): Sample site specific quarterly average

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2018, our system was in compliance with all applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- ◆ Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- ◆ Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- ◆ Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential firefighting needs are met.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2019
Village of Brownville
216 Brown Blvd.
(Public Water Supply ID#22002332)

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, Village of Brownville, will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Last year, your tap water met all State drinking water health standards. We are proud to report that our system did not violate a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Bill Pickett, DPW Superintendent, 782-7916. We want to be informed about your drinking water. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held the second Tuesday monthly at 7:00 P.M. at the Village Offices/Fire Hall.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department's and FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system serves 1,650 people through 380 service connections. Our water source is groundwater wells: groundwater drawn from two drilled wells on Washington Street and Cape Vincent water system supplied through the Development Authority of the North Country pipe lines. The water is treated with chlorine as well as UV disinfection that is required by the New York State Department of Health prior to distribution.

The New York State Department of Health has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The state source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how easily contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated.

The source water assessment has rated these wells as having a medium-high susceptibility to nitrates, microbial, and halogenated solvents. These ratings are due primarily to potential agricultural practices and a documented hazardous waste site within the wells outer assessment area. The wells draw from fractured bedrock and the overlying soils may not provide adequate protection from potential contamination. The New York State Department of Health will use this information to direct future source water protection activities. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting the supplier of water.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The state allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the Health Department at 785-2277.

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: total coliform, inorganic compounds, nitrate, lead and copper volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, and synthetic organic compounds.

Contaminate	Violation	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Avg/Max) Range	Unit of Measure MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT, oral)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Compounds	No	08/16/17	<MCL	MG/L	0.002-250.0	Well Aquifer
Nitrate	No	10/18/19	0.25	MG/L	10.0	Well Aquifer
Lead & Copper	No	07/17/14	Copper:1.60 Lead:0.006	MG/L	Copper:1.3 Lead:0.015	Residents Plumbing
Radiological: Gross Alpha Radium - 228 #2 Well #3 Well	No	11/10/14	Radium-228 0.82	pCi/L	Radium - 228 5	Well Aquifer
		11/10/14	-----			
		08/16/17	Radium - 228 0.82			
Synthetic Organic Compounds	No		None Detected	MG/L	0.002-250.0	Well Aquifer
Total Coliform	No	Monthly	None Detected	MG/L	2	Distribution System
Trihalo-Methanes	No	09/03/19	0.02	MG/L	0.80	Distribution System
Haloacetic Acids	No	09/03/19	0.04	MG/L	0.60	Distribution System
Principle Organic Chemicals	No	08/16/17	None Detected	MG/L	0.005	Distribution System
Asbestos	No	7/18/14	None Detected	MF/L	7.0MF/L	Distribution System

Notes:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Milligrams per Liter (MG/L): Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per Million-ppm)

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

- Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life;
- Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly new wells, pumping systems and water towers; and
- Saving water lessens the strain on the water system during a dry spell or drought, helping to avoid severe water use restrictions so that essential fire fighting needs are met.

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water.

Conservation tips include:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have any questions.